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## FACT SHEET

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### Judicial Service Advisory Committee

The Judicial Service Advisory Committee was established in January 2003. Its goal is to identify and evaluate best current practices and develop or recommend policies and actions to the Judicial Council.

#### History

In 1999, the Task Force on the Quality of Justice, Subcommittee on the Quality of Judicial Service issued its report. In 2001, to carry on the work initiated by that subcommittee, Chief Justice Ronald M. George appointed members to a Task Force on Judicial Service. The Chief Justice asked that one of the first actions of the task force be to propose a rule of court that would establish a Judicial Service Advisory Committee.

In January 2003, the Judicial Council approved the creation of the Judicial Service Advisory Committee to consider issues related to improving judicial service, retention, compensation, and benefits.

#### Current Projects

The committee is:

- Continuing efforts to refine the Judges Retirement System (I and II);
- Developing a long-term strategic plan that addresses the needs of the judiciary for facilities, planning, staffing, courtroom amenities, and work tools (e.g., research capability, etc.); and
- Discussing and considering efforts to enhance judicial compensation, including a recommendation to establish a citizens' compensation committee for justices and judges.

### Committee Structure

Judge William F. Highberger of the Superior Court of Los Angeles County chairs the committee. Justice Joan K. Irion of the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division One, is vice-chair.

The advisory committee includes at least one member from each of the following categories:

- Appellate court justice;
- Retired jurist;
- Superior court judge from a court with 15 or more judges;
- Superior court judge from a court with 5 to 14 judges;
- Superior court judge from a court with 4 or fewer judges;
- Superior court executive officer from a court with 15 or more judges;
- Superior court executive officer from a court with 14 or fewer judges;
- Member of the Administrative Presiding Justices Advisory Committee; and
- Member of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee.

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